

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

GENERAL SUBJECT: Work Zone Safety		NUMBER: TE-272
SPECIFIC SUBJECT: Replacement of Electronic Arrow Panel With Static Arrow Sign		DATE: October 24, 1996
DIRECTED TO: District Administrators		SUPERSEDES:
		SIGNATURE: <i>J. L. Butner</i>

Recently, on an experimental basis, electronic arrow panels on long term lane drop operations on primary and secondary routes were replaced with 4811 by 9611 static arrow signs. The static signs were installed after approximately two weeks or more display of the electronic arrow panels. Due mostly in part to the familiarity of the location and the knowledge of the existing lane drop condition by the motorists using these routes, there were no observable safety problems or lack in the effectiveness of the lane closure by replacing the electronic arrow panels with the static signs in these operations. By implementing this replacement, a decrease was realized in the maintenance of the arrow panel, the noise and air pollution production of the arrow panel, as well as the daily cost of this device.

Therefore, replacing the electronic arrow panel in long term lane drop situations (greater than two weeks) with-a static arrow sign is allowable under the following conditions:

- They shall only be used on non-limited access Primary and Secondary Routes;
- The electronic arrow panel must be in operation for a minimum of two weeks prior to being replaced (on change of traffic patterns, the electronic arrow panels must be used for a two week time period to allow motorists to become accustomed to the new pattern) and;
- Must be approved by the District Traffic Engineer.

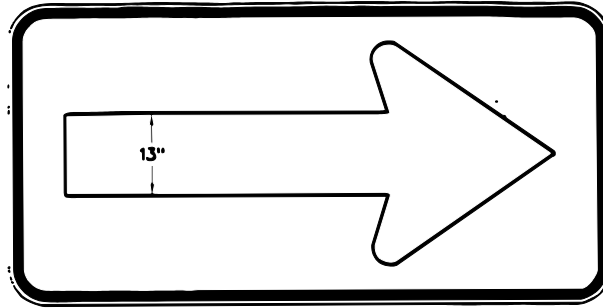
The mounting height of the static arrow sign shall be the

same as the flashing arrow panel, a minimum of seven (7) feet from the bottom of the sign to the roadway elevation. During the two week period when the flashing arrow panel is in use, the static arrow sign may be placed under the flashing panel for greater recognition when the devices are switched.

A copy of the static arrow sign layout is attached for your information. This change is effective immediately.

DBR/
Attachment

cc: Mr. David R. Gehr
Mr. J. G. Browder, Jr.
Mr. Claude D. Garver, Jr.
Mr. P. R. Kolakowski
Division Administrators
Resident Engineers
District Traffic Engineers
District safety Officers



SHAPE	Horizontal Rectangle	
COLOR	Message and Border:	Black (Non-reflectORIZED)
	Field:	Fluorescent Orange (ReflectORIZED)
SIZE	Horizontal:	96"
	Vertical:	48"
MESSAGE	Symbol:	Arrow (See Note)
MARGIN WIDTH	$\frac{3}{4}$ "	
BORDER WIDTH	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	
CORNER RADIUS	6"	

Note: Arrow is standard arrow used on a WI-6 sign (page 2-7, Standard Highway Signs Booklet), except it is enlarged 200%.